



# OUTREACH NOTICE

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ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST, VERNAL RANGER DISTRICT  
PHONE (435) 789-1181 FAX (435) 781-5142

The Ashley National Forest Vernal Ranger District will soon begin advertising for temporary (NTE 1039hrs) Handcrew, Hydro, Timber, Recreation and General positions for the 2012 field season. Openings are available at the GS-03, GS-04 and GS-05 levels, which may or may not be filled depending on staffing needs and budgets. These are seasonal temporary positions with a three to six month tour of duty. Our earliest anticipated start date is May 2012 and we expect some positions to operate until late September. Duty station is Vernal, Utah. **Government housing is not available.** These positions will be advertised under the Nationwide Open Continuous Recruitment (OCR) announcements that can be found at [www.avuedigitalservices.com](http://www.avuedigitalservices.com).

The Duty station will be Vernal, UT. Up to five of these positions may be filled under STEP (Student Temporary Employment Program) hiring authority. In order to participate in the STEP program, the applicant must be a student in good standing and accepted or enrolled in a degree seeking program. If you feel you would qualify to work under the STEP program, contact the supervisor to discuss your qualifications and to make arrangements to provide transcripts and resume. For more information on the STEP program go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/fsjobs/step.html>. Otherwise, follow the instructions listed below and apply for positions online through AVUE.

<b>Job:</b> Hydrologic Technician <b>Series:</b> GS-1316-04 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-1316-4-HYDRO-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Melissa Hendrickson <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5137 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:mrhendrickson@fs.fed.us">mrhendrickson@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Hydrologic Technician <b>Series:</b> GS-1316-05 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-1316-5-HYDRO-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Melissa Hendrickson <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5137 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:mrhendrickson@fs.fed.us">mrhendrickson@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Trails) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-4 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-4-TRAIL-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Julia Slabosheski <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5124 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jaslabosheski@fs.fed.us">jaslabosheski@fs.fed.us</a>
<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Timber Stand Improvement) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-04 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-4-TSI-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Bryan Clark <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5139 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:bryanclark@fs.fed.us">bryanclark@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Forestry Aid (General) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-03 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-3-GEN-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Bryan Clark <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5139 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:bryanclark@fs.fed.us">bryanclark@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Rec) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-04 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-4-REC-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Rhett Burkman <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5199 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:rburkman@fs.fed.us">rburkman@fs.fed.us</a>
<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Handcrew) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-04 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-4-HANDCREW-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Chris Deets <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5153 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:cdeets@fs.fed.us">cdeets@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Handcrew) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-05 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-5-HANDCREW-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Chris Deets <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5153 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:cdeets@fs.fed.us">cdeets@fs.fed.us</a>	<b>Job:</b> Forestry Technician (Fire General) <b>Series:</b> GS-0462-03 <b>Announcement #:</b> <a href="#">OCRT-462-3-FIRE-DT</a> <b>Contact:</b> Chris Deets <b>Phone:</b> 435-781-5153 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:cdeets@fs.fed.us">cdeets@fs.fed.us</a>

\*more information about duties for each position on next page\*

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

1. ONLY on-line applications are accepted through AVUE Digital Services [www.avuedigitalservices.com](http://www.avuedigitalservices.com).
2. New applicants must create a new profile within AVUE.
3. If you have previously applied for this position under old OCRT numbers, you will need to re-apply when the new OCRT announcements become available. If you fail to re-apply under the new OCRT announcement numbers, your application package for this position will not be considered.
4. Be sure to indicate **Vernal, Utah** as the location for consideration when applying in AVUE.
5. **Each contact person will request a referral list at different times, Fire lists may be pulled as early as February 20<sup>th</sup>, the others as early as the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, 2012.** Be sure to have your applications submitted by this date.
6. If you have questions about Avue, contact the Help Desk at 1-800-407-0147 or the Albuquerque Service Center-Human Capital Management at 877-372-7248

## **HYDROLOGY**

**POSITIONS:** Hydrologic Technicians, GS-1316-4 or GS-1315-5

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

This position serves as member of the watershed survey crew. Crew-members will perform duties in support of the watershed program under the direction of the district hydrologist. Survey work will be conducted primarily over the Vernal Ranger District, but some work may occur on other districts. Tasks will include channel type and condition surveys, inventory of spring and groundwater dependent ecosystems, karst stream insurgence and resurgence characterization, water quality monitoring, watershed improvement need inventories related to system and non-system roads on the forest, wetland delineation, and stream and wetland restoration work. Other duties may be assigned as they occur. This position will work four days a week, 10 hours a day. Days will be spent in the field with some field locations requiring several miles of arduous cross-country hiking with heavy equipment. It is not atypical to cover 10 miles on foot in a day. Length of seasonal appointment would be up to 12 weeks with a tentative start date of June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **TRAILS**

**POSITIONS:** Forestry Technician (Trails) GS-0462-4

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

This position serves as member of the trail crew. Crew members will perform duties in support of the trails program under the direction of the district Recreation Specialist and Recreation Technician. Maintaining and reconstructing trails and identifying trail problems. Work will be conducted primarily on the Vernal Ranger District, but some work may occur on the Flaming Gorge District. Tasks will include using various tools and equipment to maintain and construct trails, install water-bars, and/or build rock walls and to move or transport personnel and equipment to project areas. Individuals may perform independently or as a crew member in maintenance or reconstruction of trail improvement projects. Crew members will patrol trails to ensure they are operated, used, and maintained in accordance with forest standards. They will monitor and report on trail conditions. May be called upon to explain and enforce Forest rules and regulations. Other duties may be assigned as they occur. This position will work four days a week, 10 hours a day. Length of seasonal appointment would be up to 12 weeks (tentative start date May 21st).

## **TIMBER**

**POSITIONS:** Forestry Technician (Timber Stand Improvement) GS-0462-4, Forestry Aid (General) 6S-0462-3

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

Serve as crew member for the Timber Stand Improvement/ Sale Preparation Crew. One of the duties of this job includes timber sale preparation through boundary lay-out and tree volume plot establishment. Other duties include timber stand examination, reforestation surveys, and forest health activities (beetle pheromone application and tree spray inspections in campgrounds). Crew member would be expected to use global positioning system (GPS) and/or other field data recorders for documenting field work.

## **RECREATION**

**POSITIONS:** Forestry Technician (Rec) GS-0462-4

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

Duties will include, but not be limited to, working with the public to ensure campground rule compliance. Primary duties will be campground cleaning, weekly water testing, cleaning bathrooms on the Forest, hauling trash from the campgrounds. Applicant must be comfortable working on their own. Must be able to drive a 4 wheel drive truck with a trailer. Operation of a chainsaw and any familiarity with water testing, including chlorination, is favorable.

## **FIRE**

**POSITIONS:** Forestry Technician (Handcrew) GS-0462-4, Forestry Technician (Handcrew) GS-0462-5, Forestry Technician (Fire General) GS-0462-4,

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

Serve on crews performing duties in fire suppression. Performs prescribed burning crew duties in order to reduce fuel hazards and disease, while protecting wildlife. Lays or directs hose in the use of water. Moves dirt, chops brush, and fells small trees to build fireline using various hand tools such as axes, shovels, Pulaskis, and McLeods to control spreading wildland fire and/or to prepare lines prior to controlled burning. Chops, carries, and piles logging slash. Searches out and extinguishes burning materials by moving dirt, applying water by hose or backpack pump. Patrols fireline to locate and extinguish sparks, flare-ups, and hot spots that may threaten loss of control of the fire. Cleans, reconditions, and stores simple fire tools and equipment. The duties of these positions require that the incumbent meet prescribed physical requirements as measured by the Work Capacity Fitness Test at the arduous level. To meet the arduous level the incumbent must be able to walk 3 miles within 45 minutes while carrying 45 pounds. This position is subject to the Medical Qualifications Standards for Arduous positions.

## **ABOUT THE ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST**

The Ashley National Forest encompasses almost a million and a half acres in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. The Forest lies in three geographical areas: the east-west range of the Uinta Mountains, the Wyoming Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Elevations range from 6,000 feet to over 13,500 feet.

Steep canyons, high mountain peaks, glaciated basins, large open meadows, and desert badlands, all contain a rich diversity of vegetation and wildlife. The grasses and shrubs of the high mountain desert are replaced by pinyon and juniper as the elevation rises. In mid-elevation areas, aspen dominates and becomes mixed with conifer. Higher up, the vegetation changes to conifer forest composed of lodgepole pine, fir and spruce. Grasses, forbs, and stunted, twisted conifers called krumholtz are found above timberline. Wildlife is abundant. Larger species include bear, mountain lion, moose, elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep.

Neighboring lands include the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation to the south, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the west and north, and a mixture of Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, and private lands to the east and southeast. Compared with other National Forests, relatively few small tracts of private land lie within the Ashley's boundary.

The Ashley has three major recreation attractions of national significance:

The High Uintas Wilderness, established by Congress in 1984, comprises of nearly one-half million acres in the Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. Within the wilderness, elevations range from 8,000 feet to 13,582 feet at the top of Kings Peak, the highest in Utah. The Uinta Mountain range runs east to west, from the Wasatch Mountains into Colorado. Pre-Cambrian rock formed from sediments laid down 600 million years ago makes up the core of the range. Glacial activity carved deep canyons and left a spectacular landscape of rolling, treeless peaks and stratified ridges interspersed with broad meadows and numerous lakes. The mountains below timberline are covered by coniferous forest, and meadows have streams and lush vegetation. The Wilderness is accessible from July through September, via numerous trails.

The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area lies in the northeast part of the Forest. Flaming Gorge Reservoir extends almost 90 miles into Wyoming, and offers outstanding fishing and boating opportunities. Record-breaking German brown trout and large lake and rainbow trout have been taken from its waters.

The Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is a world-famous trout stream. The Little Hole National Recreation Trail parallels the river 7.3 miles from the Dam to the Little Hole Recreation Complex. Rafting this section of the Green River is a favorite pastime of visitors. Flaming Gorge Dam and Red Canyon Visitor Centers have exhibits to acquaint visitors with the area. At Ute Lookout Tower, visitors can enjoy a spectacular view and learn about the life of early Forest Service lookouts. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area has three marinas and many campgrounds, some of which are open year-round.

Sheep Creek Geological Area is located about 5 miles south of Manila, in the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Sheep Creek Canyon is filled with twisted and folded rock formations that expose 600 million years of the earth's history. Towering rock spires flank the road. Visit us on the web at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/>

***About Vernal, Utah***

Vernal has a population of approximately 8,000 people and the surrounding Uinta Basin population is approximately 20,000 according to 2000 census bureau data. The Uinta Basin is greatly influenced by the oil and gas industry, which is in the middle of a job boom, so the population numbers have noticeably increased over the past 6 years. Vernal is situated in northeast Utah about 35 minutes from the Colorado border (and Dinosaur National Monument) and 1.5 hours south of the Wyoming border. Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area on the Ashley National Forest is a neighboring district that is a good reference point for locating the area since it is easily discernable on most maps. Vernal is approximately 2 hours from ski resorts such as Park City, UT and Steamboat Springs, CO; and approximately 2.5 to 3 hours from cities along the Wasatch front like Salt Lake City and Provo, UT. The Vernal area has year-round recreation throughout the Uinta Mountains and Uinta Basin including fishing, hiking, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, motorized and non-motorized boating, camping, hunting, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and more. Vernal city has recreation leagues for sports such as basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, soccer, and other activities like yoga and table tennis. For more information go to: <http://www.vernalchamber.com/>

### ***Climate***

The elevation in Vernal is approximately 5,300 feet. The climate is semi-arid with low humidity. Average winter temperatures range between 5 and 31 degrees. Average summer temperatures can reach 90 degrees during the day and dip to 50 degrees at night. Long warm summers and pleasant falls typify the climate. Snow is common from November through March.

### ***Economic Base***

Oil and gas exploration and production, along with oil shale, tar sands, gilsonite, phosphate and timber, are the major components of the local economy.

Tourism and recreation is also a growing and important industry. A Super Wal-Mart and Big K and Lowes are major stores in the area and provide employment for the local residents. A new Walgreen's Drug store is currently being constructed and a number of other commercial ventures are being considered.

Several government offices located in Vernal include the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Farmers Home Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and city, county and state offices.

### ***Housing***

Apartments rentals are readily available in Vernal and surrounding communities. Two and three bedroom apartments rent from \$550 to \$900 a month. Rental homes are available on limited basis. Three and four - bedroom homes range from \$157,000 to \$247,000.

### ***Schools***

Vernal has six elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high and two high schools. One high school is a special-purpose accredited high school for students 14 years of age through adult who wish to pursue a quality education in a non-traditional model. Through negotiated agreements, students have total control over their curriculum, including design, content, management, and style in which he/she learns. The Uintah District Learning Center provides education opportunities for children with handicaps or special needs.

Utah State University-Uintah Basin (Vernal and Roosevelt) offers 13 complete bachelor degree programs and 7 complete master's degree programs. A new USU-Uintah Basin campus is currently under construction and intends on expanding its curriculum and campus. Uintah Basin Applied Technology College offers Certificates of Competency for technical, entry-level work.

### ***Health Care***

Ashley Valley Medical Center (AVMC), a 36-bed hospital with 11 physicians on staff, provides a full complement of auxiliary services. It has a 24-hour, fully staffed emergency room. AVMC is currently undergoing its third phase of expansion in recent years, and reflects the facility's increased breadth of services and mission of serving the entire region, according to Si Hutt, Chief Executive Officer for the hospital. AVMC will now be called – Ashley Regional Medical Center – which more accurately reflects its regional service area.

The new phase, which began in the fall of 2007, invested \$7.2 million in the facility, and brings to over \$15 million the total investment in the hospital's facility since 2003. The new project includes: a new 2-story medical office building which can house up to 14 physicians; a new main entrance for the hospital; A new registration area and information desk; a new one-stop, pre-surgical area where patients can register and have outpatient diagnostic tests performed; space to house a future fixed MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scanner; and a new gift shop for the Volunteer Auxiliary. It will also include new office space and a renovation of the kitchen. Physicians from Salt Lake City also provide specialized, part-time services. Major hospitals are located in Salt Lake City and Provo.

For extended medical care, Uintah Care Center is a 50-bed nursing home, with additional facilities to provide out patient care on a daily basis. Child day-care centers and preschools are available in Vernal. The community also has several dentists, two podiatrists, a pediatrician, an obstetrician/gynecologist, two optometrists, and five chiropractors. A variety of mental health professionals have practices in the community. Two veterinary clinics provide care for both large and small animals.

### ***Recreation Opportunities***

Vernal has parks, a swimming pool, a bowling alley, four movie theaters, a water slide, and an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts, baseball and softball fields are also available. An athletic clubs provide weight training and aerobics.

Several nearby rivers and lakes offer excellent fishing and boating opportunities. River trips on the Green River are also available through local guides. Rafts can be rented from local vendors. Cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing are popular winter sports. Hiking, camping, biking, and hunting are favorite sports.

Basketball, volleyball, and baseball leagues are available for adults. Little League football, baseball, basketball, soccer, wrestling and a swim team for children, are locally sponsored activities.

The new Uintah Community Center is a 70,000 square foot complex which offers an array of recreational opportunities for all ages including: indoor lap pool; indoor leisure pool with slides and water toys; a climbing wall; two full-size gyms; indoor running track; cardio balcony; an aerobic dance area; a strength area; on-site child care; three party rooms; classrooms; a public meeting area and conference rooms. Membership plans, including individual and family packages, are available.

### ***Civic and Service Organizations***

Active community and service clubs in Vernal include the Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Elks, Toastmasters, Rotary, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Masonic Lodge, Search and Rescue, Cultural Arts and American Legion, to name a few. Vernal has several dance schools instructing ballet, jazz, clogging and tap. Gymnastic classes for children are available. Vernal has a large, well-stocked public library. The Utah Field House of Natural History is adjacent to the Dinosaur Gardens. The Golden Age Senior Center provides activities, luncheons, transportation, and dances for senior citizens in the area.

### ***Churches***

Churches that provide services in Vernal:

Assembly of God	Congregational
Baptist	Episcopal
Catholic	Jehovah Witnesses
Christian	Nazarene
Church of Christ	Pentecostal
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Lutheran

### ***Cultural Events***

Several cultural events occur throughout the year, including the annual Outlaw Trail Festival, Festival of the Arts, Uintah County Fair, Dinosaur Roundup Rodeo, Dinosaur Days, Dino-Soar Hot Air Balloon Festival, and the annual Christmas Fair. The Uintah Arts Council sponsors several musical events and Utah State University and Uintah High School produce a play each year.

There is a strong, positive community spirit. It is a traditional small western town where activities center on families, school and church activities, rodeos, hunting and fishing.